

MISSION-CRITICAL SYSTEMS ARE 100% Y2K COMPLIANT



Y2K Count down Connection

United States Department of Energy

Special Edition 12

Message from the CIO

Congratulations to DOE for a job well done...



John Gilligan
CIO, Department of Energy

We have achieved 100% Year 2000 compliance of mission-critical systems, bringing closure to part of our preparations for the century date change. Making all of our mission-critical systems ready for the new century has been a significant effort across the Department. It is important to understand everything that went into achieving this goal. Hard work and determination of individuals were

the core of the accomplishment. Beyond that, we established new relationships between the Office of the CIO and DOE sites, leading to greater understanding and successful completion of this portion of our Year 2000 initiative.

We began our effort with an "F" from Congressman Horn and 420 mission-critical systems to remediate. Just when we understood what it would take to accomplish this effort, a new challenge arose. Secretary Richardson implemented stretch goals, pushing our compliance deadlines to January 1, 1999, for mission-critical systems and March 31, 1999, for non-mission critical systems. A primary objective of the stretch goals was to allow us to improve the "F" we had been given the previous three quarters.

Remediation of our complex, interdependent systems was not a straightforward task. Many of our systems directly affect the health and safety of personnel, surrounding communities, and the environment, making it critical that no detail be overlooked. With stretch goals in place, sites re-planned activities, applied greater-than-expected resources, and intensified their efforts to accomplish the task. An incentives program was implemented to reward the extraordinary efforts necessary to meet this challenge. The hard work paid off. On January 31, 1999, the Department achieved the first of the Secretary's objectives. With 357 (85%) of the Department's 420 mission-critical systems implemented, Congressman Horn awarded the Department a "B".

With the stretch goals behind us, Office of the CIO personnel began a set of site visits to monitor compliance with Year 2000 guidance and to discuss contingency planning efforts. Ultimately, we needed to gain a better understanding of the

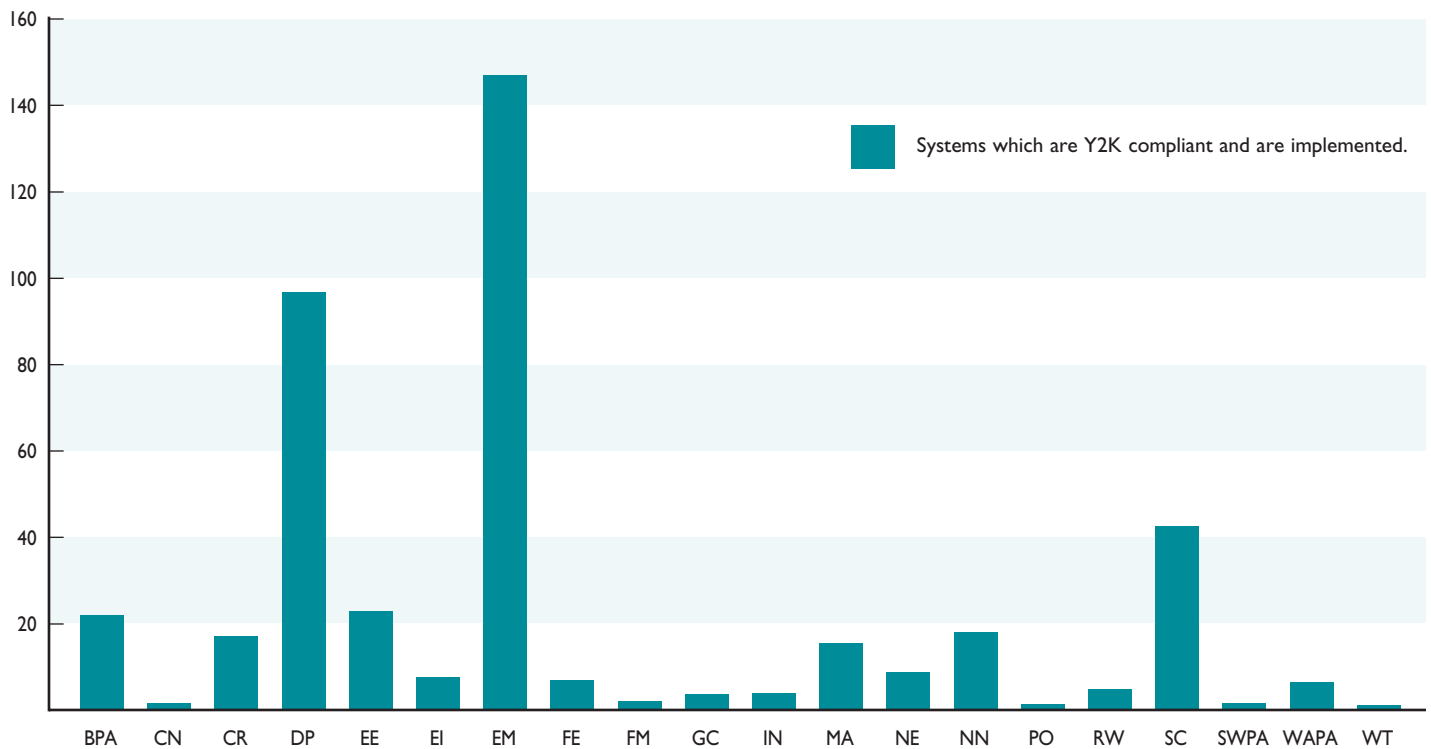
sites' perspectives. The Department had to address independent verification and validation of systems, as well as end-to-end testing. Business continuity and contingency planning also had to be accomplished, along with helping personnel raise awareness of Y2K issues. In April, the Department's power marketing administrations prepared for and participated in the North American Electric Reliability Council's (NERC's) first nationwide drill. The Office of the CIO also hosted a Contingency and Business Continuity Workshop. We entered the summer with a full plate of activities.

Over the summer, we made progress on all fronts. Our grade from Congressman Horn dipped to a "C+" and then returned to a "B" for mission-critical systems. We had a successful Departmentwide drill September 8-9, 1999 and once again participated in NERC's drill on the same dates. Finally, as the fiscal year ended, we achieved 100% compliance for mission-critical systems. Most importantly, we have established a precedent for working successfully on a Departmentwide level to accomplish an initiative of major importance. This accomplishment opens the door to a new paradigm so we can begin to address information technology and cyber security initiatives from a Departmental perspective. We have established a momentum that will carry us through the remainder of the Y2K efforts and into our next challenge of cyber-security.



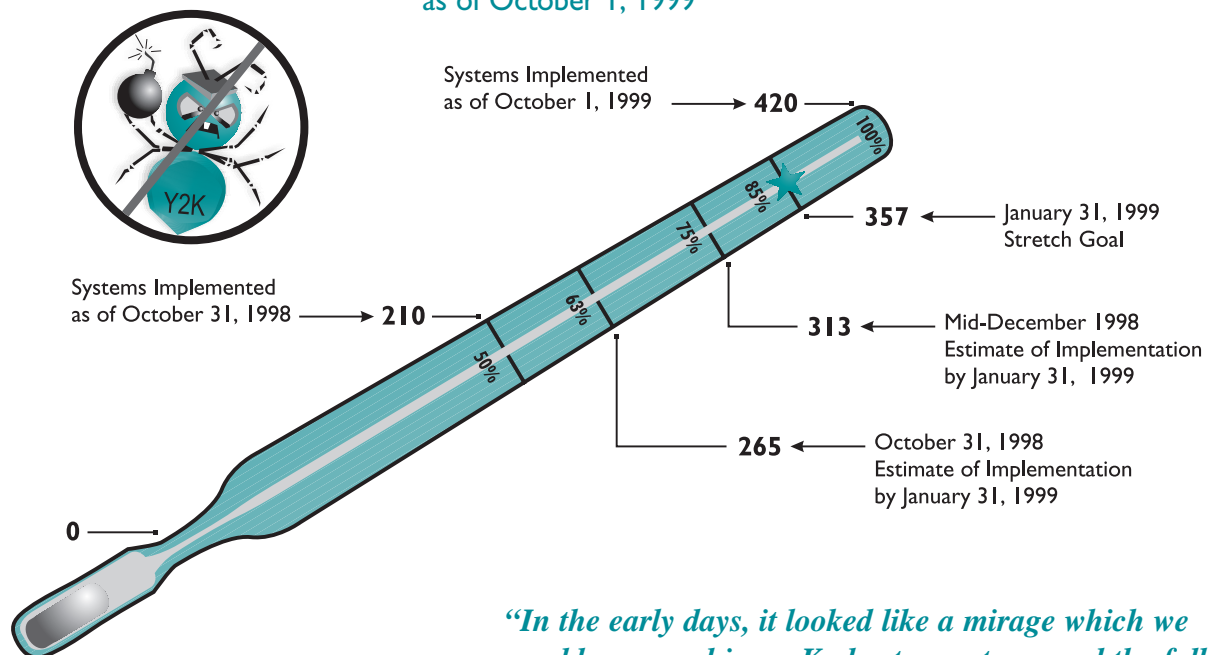
CIO John Gilligan (left) and Year 2000 Program Director, John Przysucha are pleased to note that all the Department's mission-critical systems are Y2K compliant.

Mission-Critical Systems Status of Y2K Progress by Funding Organization as of October 1, 1999



"Stoplight" charts helped track progress toward achieving compliance of mission-critical systems. All the "lights" are finally green with all mission-critical systems compliant and implemented.

Y2K Stretch Goal Progress as of October 1, 1999



DOE mission-critical systems have come a long way since last year.

"In the early days, it looked like a mirage which we would never achieve. Kudos to our team and the folks in the field. This was a key challenge and it has been a good effort." -- John Gilligan